

Teen Driver Task Force Meeting – Meeting Minutes

8/1/19

9:00 am – 11:00 am

Public Safety Building – DMV

OHS Conference Room – 2nd Floor

Dover, DE

Attendees:

Sarah Cattie, Office of Highway Safety
Michael Wagner, DOE – Driver Education
Anthony Kwoka, DOE/DDSEA
Shannon Timmons, DOE/DDSEA
Pete Booker, SmartDrive Foundation
Guy VanderLek, SmartDrive Foundation
Alexis Williams, Office of Highway Safety

Sarah Cattie updated the group about OHS' plan to work with the Teens in the Driver's Seat peer led program in FY20 – which will allow 5 schools to pilot the program. We are working on getting support for the incentives and Mike Wagner will work to identify participating schools. Teen Driver Safety Week is October 20-26 and we're looking to hold a Phone Down/Buckle Up Event that week as well.

With several members missing, we will hold off on discussing the Parents' Guides from Virginia that Jana shared at the last meeting. It will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Individual Member Updates:

Anthony Kwoka – DDSEA had a successful Driving Competition and was pleased to share that 10 students received scholarships. Anthony will now be serving as the Driver's Education Teacher at St. Mark's HS.

Shannon Timmons – Echoing Anthony's remarks, she shared that the Driving Competition went very well this year.

Michael Wagner – The Gift of Life Scholarship program went really well and the program will continue next year. The Current Issues in Driver's Education course will take place August 8/7 at 9 am at Troop 3. Lisa Minjares-Kyle from the Teens in the Driver's Seat program will present about the program.

Guy VanderLek – SmartDrive took down the DD Course to make updates and it will be back up soon. Guy asked about the changes with the law to include the questions about traffic stops in SB 168. DOE (Michael/Anthony) will follow up with the changes. SmartDrive also wants to share the winners of the driving competition as well.

Pete Booker – SmartDrive has had a good year – they are still working to connect with schools where they can. This can be difficult to get in to public schools. They are continuing to work on their projects, Click4Life and PROMise.

A brief discussion was held regarding the introduction of SB 176 was held. The synopsis for this bill is:

This Act clarifies the circumstances in which it is appropriate to grant a person a driver education learner's permit and what is required for a person to obtain a driver education learner's permit. Specifically, this Act clarifies that a driver education learner's permit is intended to be issued to those individuals who have met all of the requirements for a level 1 learner's permit, but have not yet successfully completed a road skills test. This permit allows the individual to gain additional supervised driving experience needed to successfully complete the road skills test. This Act also establishes a clear connection between § 4125 of Title 14 and the requirements to obtain a driver education learner's permit or a level 1 learner's permit. Finally, this Act makes technical corrections to conform existing law to the standards of the Delaware Legislative Drafting Manual.

The next Teen Driver Task Force Meeting will be held on October 3, 2019 at 9 am in the OHS Conference Room. An invitation will follow via Outlook.